

- "(3) For all elections, primaries, and referenda not specified in the two preceding subdivisions, by the State Board of Elections, at the expense of the State.

Provided, that the State Board of Elections, in its discretion, may direct some or all counties to print the ballots required by this subdivision under the supervision of the State Board of Elections. If the State Board of Elections prints and distributes the ballots required by this subdivision at the expense of the State, the State Board shall ~~have the authority to negotiate for the ballots to be printed and distributed on a regional or centralized basis, and the State Board shall be exempt from securing competitive bids~~ establish contracts through competition pursuant to Article 3 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes for printing and distribution of all ballots, abstracts and precinct return forms."

PART 15. COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Requested by: Representatives Grady, Preston, Senators Plexico, Winner
AID TO STUDENTS ATTENDING PRIVATE COLLEGES PROCEDURE

Sec. 15. (a) Funds appropriated in this act to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina for aid to private colleges shall be disbursed in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 116-19, 116-21, and 116-22. These funds shall provide up to five hundred fifty dollars (\$550.00) per full-time equivalent North Carolina undergraduate student enrolled at a private institution as of October 1 each year.

These funds shall be placed in a separate, identifiable account in each eligible institution's budget or chart of accounts. All funds in this account shall be provided as scholarship funds for needy North Carolina students during the fiscal year. Each student awarded a scholarship from this account shall be notified of the source of the funds and of the amount of the award. Funds not utilized under G.S. 116-19 shall be for the tuition grant program as defined in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) In addition to any funds appropriated pursuant to G.S. 116-19 and in addition to all other financial assistance made available to private educational institutions located within the State, or to students attending these institutions, there is granted to each full-time North Carolina undergraduate student attending an approved institution as defined in G.S. 116-22, a sum, not to exceed one thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$1,250) per academic year, which shall be distributed to the student as hereinafter provided.

The tuition grants provided for in this section shall be administered by the State Education Assistance Authority pursuant to rules adopted by the State Education Assistance Authority not inconsistent with this section. The State Education Assistance Authority shall not approve any grant until it receives proper certification from an approved institution that the student applying for the grant is an eligible student. Upon receipt of the certification, the State Education Assistance Authority shall remit at such times as it shall prescribe the grant to the approved institution on behalf, and to the credit, of the student.